

NMCYSA – Division Rules for 2016

- **8U Division – Modified Coach-pitch & Player-pitch**
 - An 11-inch safety ball (soft, cushioned) is used, such as the Easton Incrediball
 - Up to 10 players can be placed on defense
 - Outs do count
 - Pitcher's plate is 30 feet from home plate
 - Pitchers are limited to pitching a total of two innings per game
 - Games are up to 50 minutes. No inning will start with 5 minutes or less left in the game. Once an inning starts, it is played to completion
 - Base stealing is not allowed, but runners can take a lead and can be picked-off
 - Base runners can leave the base once the pitcher releases the ball
 - The ball being thrown to the pitcher stops all play
 - No enforcement of the infield-fly rule
 - Bunting Rules: The batter may attempt to bunt while the player pitcher is pitching. No bunting attempts are permitted from the coach pitcher. If the batter “shows” bunt at any time while the pitcher is in the pitching circle with the ball, and the batter is in the batter’s box, the batter must bunt on the subsequent pitch - no bluff bunting. If a bluff occurs, the umpire will call Dead Ball and a strike will be called
 - Outfield must be standing on the grass or ten feet (10’) behind the bases. The outfielders can only enter the dirt area of the infield after a ball has been hit
 - Up to two coaches from the defensive team may be positioned in the outfield to help direct the players. The coaches may not touch the ball nor players – they can only give direction. If a coach does touch a ball or player, play is stopped and the base runners are awarded two (2) extra bases
 - Modified coach-pitch:
 - Players will pitch, but there are no walks. After four "balls," a coach (or some other designee) for the batting team comes in to pitch. They will inherit the strike count, and every pitch from the coach is a strike. If the 3rd strike is hit foul, the batter will receive one (and only one) additional pitch – the player must either hit the ball fair, or they are out
 - Coaches must pitch with both feet in the pitcher's circle
 - No bunting off the coach pitcher
 - A batted ball that hits the coach pitcher is a dead ball and does not count as a pitch
 - If a coach pitcher accidentally interferes with a defensive player's attempt to field a hit ball, the ball is dead, base runners return to the base they were on when the ball was hit, the batter returns to the batters' box and the ball is treated as a foul ball
 - If a coach pitcher intentionally interferes with a defensive player's attempt to field a hit ball, the ball is dead, the batter will be called out and the base runners will return to base prior to coach interference

ALL DIVISION RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PER COACHES' DISCRETION